

### **Summary**

A device and a method for the layer-by-layer generative manufacturing of three-dimensional objects by selective hardening of a previously applied layer by means of laser radiation, wherein a laser (1) contains a switching device (8) for changing the modal composition of the laser radiation. By changing the modal composition of the radiation during the selective hardening of a layer, the focussing features (“focusability”) of the radiation is increased in areas (25), in which high structural accuracy is required. In the remaining areas to be illuminated, the required illumination time is reduced by increasing the intensity of the radiation.

(Fig. 1)